

Dear Honorable Members of the Children's Committee,

I am writing in SUPPORT of HB 6329, AAC Dissection Choice.

I vote, and this issue is of great importance to me.

I am pleased to hear that if HB 6329 is passed, Connecticut will encourage the integration of educationally-superior, humane learning methods in science curricula. I feel strongly that children should be given the chance to opt out of dissection and perform an alternative assignment. When I was school, I was extremely upset at having to dissect animals in order to maintain my place in the top tier of my class. Some immature students behaved disrespectfully toward the animals, which was even more upsetting. I remember these experiences decades later. Many studies have shown that students who use non-animal alternatives have been shown to grasp the learning objective better than those who dissect. We need to join neighboring states that have laws to allow students to opt-out, including Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Maine, Vermont, and New Jersey.

I am hopeful that this law will go into effect so that when the time comes, my son will be able to learn about anatomy without having to go against his conscience.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Ellen Ravens-Seger  
83 Newgate Road  
East Granby, CT

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